

ATLAS
OF
NEW BEDFORD
CITY,
MASSACHUSETTS.

COMPILED FROM RECENT AND
ACTUAL SURVEYS AND RECORDS

UNDER THE DIRECTION
OF THE PUBLISHERS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

MAPS, ETC.


	PAGE.
NEW BEDFORD CITY (OUTLINE),	22, 23
INDEX MAP (SHOWING WHERE ANY SECTION OF THE CITY CAN BE FOUND IN DETAIL),	27
PLATE 1. SHOWING PART OF WARD 1,	28, 29
" 2. " " WARD 1,	33
" 3. " " WARDS 1, 2,	34, 35
" 4. " " WARDS 1, 2,	36
" 5. " " WARDS 2, 3, 4,	40, 41
" 6. " " WARDS 2, 3,	46, 47
" 7. " " WARDS 4, 5,	52, 53
" 8. " " WARDS 3, 4, 5,	58, 59
" 9. " " WARDS 5, 6,	64, 65
" 10. " " WARDS 5, 6,	70, 71
" 11. " " WARD 6,	78
ACUSHNET VILLAGE,	30
PLAINVILLE,	79
MASSACHUSETTS,	12, 13
BRISTOL COUNTY,	16, 17
HISTORICAL SKETCH OF NEW BEDFORD,	4 - 8

ILLUSTRATIONS.

CITY HALL AND FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY,	9
PARKER HOUSE, HOLDER M. BROWNELL, Proprietor,	9
JONATHAN C. HAWES' RESIDENCE, Acushnet,	14A
DAVID A. SNELL'S RESIDENCE, Mount Pleasant Street,	19
WM. J. ROTCH'S RESIDENCE, corner County and Union streets,	25
L. A. PLUMMER'S RESIDENCE, Hawthorn Street,	25
EDWARD HASKELL'S RESIDENCE, Union Street, corner Cottage,	31
WM. H. BESSE'S RESIDENCE, Washington Street,	31
EDWARD KILBURN'S RESIDENCE, corner Sixth and Bush streets,	37
MRS. WILLIAM GIFFORD'S RESIDENCE, County Street,	37
GEORGE O. CROCKER'S RESIDENCE, William Street,	43
J. C. DELANO'S RESIDENCE, Hawthorn Street,	43
ANDREW BULLOCK'S RESIDENCE, County Street,	49
R. N. SWIFT'S RESIDENCE, Acushnet,	49
CHARLES BRIGGS' RESIDENCE, Acushnet Avenue,	55
ROBERT T. BARKER'S RESIDENCE, corner Willis and State streets,	55
AMASA WHITNEY'S RESIDENCE, Fourth Street,	55
JOHN WING'S RESIDENCE, Mount Pleasant Street,	55
SUSAN S. ROBINSON'S RESIDENCE, corner Kempton and Hill streets,	61
CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, Rev. GEORGE PAGER, P. P.,	61
TILLINGHAST & TERRY'S LUMBER-YARD, North Water Street,	61
THAYER & JUDD PARAFFINE COMPANY'S FACTORY, Front Street,	67
GEORGE DELANO'S OIL & CANDLE FACTORY, corner South and Second streets,	67
OTIS A. SISSON, Sylvan Grove Vineyard,	74, 75

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE CITY OF NEW BEDFORD.

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THIS ATLAS BY CHARLES T. CONGDON, ESQ.

HE city of New Bedford was formerly a part of the old town of Dartmouth, which itself was originally within the limits of

Plymouth Colony. Dartmouth at first included the towns of Westport, Dartmouth, Fairhaven and New Bedford. At the June term of the Plymouth Colony Court, in the year 1664, it was ordered that "all the tract of land commonly called and known by the name of Acushena, Ponagansett, and Coaksett is allowed to be a township." It was further ordered that the said town be henceforth called and known by the name of Dartmouth. This tract had been purchased of the Indians on the 29th of November, 1652. So much of this tract as now includes New Bedford was known to the Indians as Accushnet, or Accoosnet, or Accushena; and in the deed from the Indians it is called Cushenagg. The price paid to the Indian chief who conveyed it was "thirty yards of cloth, eight moose skins, fifteen axes, fifteen hoes, fifteen pair of breeches, eight blankets, two kettles, one cloak, £2 in wampum, eight pair of shoes, one iron pot, and ten shillings in another commoditie." The chiefs who made the conveyance were Wesamequan (better known as Massasoit) and his son, Wamsutta (called sometimes by the English, Alexander). The indenture on the part of Plymouth Colony was signed by John Winslow and John Cooke. The first settlers upon this territory were Ralph Russell and his son John Russell, Anthony Sloeum, who built an iron forge at Russell's Mills, and John Cooke, whose home was at the head of Acushnet River. The original proprietors were thirty-six in number, of which three were women—Sarah Brewster, Miss Jennings, and Sarah Warren. Other names in the list are those of Howland, Morton, Kempton, Dunham, Shaw, Cooke, Soutle, Faunce, Sampson, Delano, Bartlett, Palmer, Doty, Hicks, Brown and Bumpass. Cooke was a Baptist minister. Many of the original purchasers and some of the early settlers of the town came in the Mayflower, and the last port which this vessel left was Dartmouth, in England. This seems to have been the reason for the selection of that name for the new settlement.

The Acushnet River and the land now occupied by the city of New Bedford were discovered in 1602 by Bartholomew Gosnold. He sailed from Falmouth, England, on the 26th of March in that year, his design being "to find a direct and short course to Virginia, and upon the discovery of a proper seat for plantation, twelve of the company were to return to England till further supplies and

assistance could be sent to them. Gosnold first discovered the group known as the Elizabeth Islands. The voyagers landed upon the island called Cuttyhunk, where they built a fort and storehouse. Crossing the bay in his vessel, Gosnold discovered the mouth of the river on the west shore of which New Bedford is now built. Here he met a company of natives, men, women and children, who, "with all courteous kindness entertained him, giving him skins of wild beasts, tobacco, turtles, hemp, artificial strings colored (wampum), and such like things as they had about them." Belknap says: "The stately groves, flowery meadows and running brooks afforded delightful entertainment to the adventurers." The plan, however, of settlement, was given up, and having loaded their vessel with sassafras-root and furs, the adventurers returned to England. An excellent picture of the landing of Gosnold has been painted by William A. Wall, an inhabitant of New Bedford.

It is believed that the causes leading to the withdrawal of the Dartmouth settlers from Plymouth are to be found in their disinclination to pay taxes for the support of the established religious worship. But the controversy continued. The Plymouth Colony Court annually apportioned to the town of Dartmouth a tax for the support of ministers, in addition to the province tax. This the Baptists and Quakers of Dartmouth resolutely refused to pay. The quarrel went on, many of the Dartmouth inhabitants suffering fine and imprisonment for non-compliance, when an embassy in their behalf was sent to England. The English government interfered and ordered the release of all those confined for the non-payment of religious taxes. This order was issued on the 2d day of June, 1724. In Gough's History of the Quakers (Vol. 4, p. 219) will be found an account of this transaction. The petitioners to the king for relief were Joseph Anthony, John Sisson, John Akin, and Philip Taber, who set themselves forth in their memorial to "George, King of Great Britain," etc., as "under great sufferings for conscience sake." They hold that the charter of William and Mary, granted in the third year of their reign, declared that "there should be liberty of conscience allowed in the worship of God to all Christians, except papists, inhabiting, or which should inhabit or be resident within the said province." They go on to complain that "these sects of protestants called presbyterians and independents, being more numerous in said country than others, to whom said charter gives equal rights, they became makers of laws by their superior num-

bers and votes." They state that among their laws was "an act for the settlement and support of ministers," which compelled every town to provide able and orthodox ministers to dispense the word of God to them." Under this law, they say, several of the townships "have had presbyterian and independent ministers obtruded and imposed upon them for maintenance without their consent, and which they have not deemed able, learned and orthodox, and which as such they could not hear and receive." For the support of these they were assessed about £100 per annum, "over and above the common taxes for the support of government, which sums are for the maintenance of such ministers." Akin and Taber were appointed assessors of taxes for said town of Dartmouth, but they could not "in conscience assess any of the inhabitants of the said towns anything for or towards the maintenance of ministers." For this they were imprisoned. The goods of the Quakers who refused to contribute to the support of the ministry were distrained. Despairing of any change in the policy of the Plymouth authorities, they then sought relief from the king, with the result above mentioned. The first Friends' meeting-house in New Bedford was built in 1785, and this was the first house built expressly for religious worship.

The colony of Dartmouth suffered severely during the Indian war, carried on by King Philip. In 1676 most of the dwellings in the town had been destroyed and many of the inhabitants killed. Garrisons were established at Russell's house, Apponagansett, on Palmer's Island, and on the east bank of the Acushnet. It is said that every habitation of the whites within the limits of the town was destroyed. Church says that many of the inhabitants removed to Rhode Island. So great had been the losses and sufferings of Dartmouth that she was relieved from furnishing any men under the military levies, and during the war and for some years afterwards she was omitted in the tax rates of the Colonies. One local barbarity marked these hostilities. Captains Eels and Earl took 160 Indian prisoners, promising them good treatment; yet in spite of the remonstrances of these officers as well as those of Captain Church, "those in higher office," says Dr. Morse in his "History of New England," "carried them to Plymouth and transported them out of the country."

New Bedford, while yet a portion of the town of Dartmouth, was known as the village of Bedford. The first house in it was erected by John Loudon in 1760. In 1801 the number of dwelling-houses

in the village was 185; in 1807 there were 300. In 1787 the old township of Dartmouth was divided into three separate parts; viz., Westford, Dartmouth and New Bedford, the latter including the present township of Fairhaven. In 1812, New Bedford and Fairhaven were separated. The particular enterprise which in past years has distinguished the city is the whale fishery. In 1751, two or three vessels from Apponagansett were engaged in it, and there were one or two vessels devoted to the same enterprise sailing from Acushnet River. These vessels made their short voyages during the warm weather, and the whales were taken off the Capes of Virginia. The blubber was brought home, and the oil extracted from it on shore. Joseph Russell, who has been called "the founder of New Bedford," was the first to engage in the fishery. Gradually the voyages were extended to the West Indies, the Bay of Mexico, the Western Islands and the coasts of Brazil and Guinea. The war of the Revolution ruined the business, but upon the return of peace it was actively resumed. The first vessel to double Cape Horn in the pursuit of whales was the Rebecca, Joseph Kersey, master, in 1791. She was built in New Bedford in 1785, by George Claghorn, who afterwards built the celebrated frigate Constitution. In 1765 Joseph Rotch, an enterprising merchant, then residing in Nantucket, bought a considerable tract of land, and called the village, which up to that time had no distinctive name, Bedford, as a compliment to Mr. Russell. The latter during the Revolution lost most of his ships. Joseph Rotch returned to Nantucket. The harbor became a refuge for privateering ships, although most of the inhabitants, being Quakers, declined to engage in the business.

Various provocations and annoyances induced Sir Henry Clinton to despatch Major-General Grey upon a military expedition against Bedford. This commander subsequently became Earl Grey. He landed with five thousand troops in boats at Clark's Cove, fearing to come up the river on account of the fort which guarded the harbor. According to his own report, made to Clinton, he destroyed "8 sail of large vessels from 200 to 300 tons, most of them prizes; 6 armed vessels, carrying from 10 to 16 guns; a number of sloops and schooners of inferior size, amounting in all to 70; 26 store houses filled with merchandize; 2 large rope walks." This report has been thought to be exaggerated. Dr. Dwight in his "Travels" states the whole amount of loss at £96,980, or \$323,266. An attempt to destroy the village of Fairhaven was repulsed by the militia under the command of Major Fearing, only two or three buildings being burned. Major André, then Capt. André, took part in this expedition. Gen. Grey says that he had only five or six men wounded, one mortally; but there were sixteen missing. The British fleet consisted of 32 vessels under command of Rear-Admiral Gambier. The militia lost only ten men.

It is stated that the first naval action during the

Revolution took place in Buzzard's Bay, not far from West's Island. This was in May, 1774. Capt. Linzee, of H. B. M. ship Falcon, had captured two provincial sloops at Bedford. He intended to send them to Martha's Vineyard, and freight sheep to Boston. Two vessels were fitted out for the recovery of the prizes, the first commanded by Nathaniel Pope, with twenty-five men—sailors and rangers; the second, commanded by Capt. Egery, with an equal force. The expedition returned to Bedford triumphantly with the prizes and with fifteen British officers and marines. The success of the affair was found to be a little embarrassing. There had been no open declaration of hostilities between Great Britain and America, and there was some difficulty in knowing what to do with the prisoners. The more timid were for sending them back with the captured sloops to the commander of the Falcon, with an apology also. This proposition did not at all please the gallant captors, who at once marched off fifteen marines to Taunton to put them beyond the reach of *habeas corpus*, while the sailors were permitted to wander where they pleased. But an apology was actually sent to Capt. Linzee. The celebrated privateer, Providence, subsequently captured H. B. M. brig Diligent, and brought her into Bedford harbor.

The Revolutionary history of New Bedford (then Dartmouth) is in other respects interesting. It was foremost, and specially so when the non-combatant character of a large proportion of its inhabitants is taken into account, in furnishing both men and money. So early as September, 1768, Walter Spooner was appointed by the town to represent it in Faneuil Hall, Boston, when it was proposed to consider the matter of the royal troops quartered in Massachusetts. At a town meeting held July 18th, 1774, very strong resolutions were adopted in which the citizens pledged themselves "not to purchase any goods manufactured in Great Britain and Ireland, which shall be imported from thence after this day;" "not to export any flax seed to any foreign market;" and to contribute the town's share of money "to pay the Congress." The town had also its Committee of Correspondence, "to act with other committees in America." The women of Dartmouth were equally patriotic. Mr. W. W. Crapo, in his Centennial address, says: "In January, 1774, fifty-seven ladies of Bedford Village had a meeting, at which they entered into an agreement not to use any more India tea; and having heard that a gentleman there had lately bought some, they requested he would immediately return it. This request he complied with, whereupon the ladies treated him with a glass of 'this country wine,' and dismissed him, highly pleased with his exemplary conduct. A number of gentlemen present gave him three cheers in approbation of his noble behavior." New Bedford was not quite so patriotic in the war of 1812-15. This, in its corporate capacity, it declared to be "impolitic, unnecessary and ruinous." It denounced privateering, and expressed regret

that private armed vessels could not by authority of law be excluded from its waters. It held that all privateers should be quarantined for forty days. Part of this feeling is to be attributed to the political bias of the town, which was intensely Federal, while the inhabitants upon the other side of the river were equally strong Democrats. This difference of opinion had a great deal to do with the final separation of the villages.

As an interesting Revolutionary incident it may be mentioned that it was at the house of Rev. Dr. West, at Bedford, that the patriot orator, James Otis, resided for some time after he had received the blow from the British officer in Boston. It is stated that he occasionally walked to the village. "Many years ago," says Ricketson, in his "History of New Bedford," "I met with an old citizen who remembered to have seen him and heard him discourse in a very amusing but incoherent manner, the particular subject of which was concerning a pumpkin of remarkable properties and growth that he had observed in a field by the roadside on his way from Acushnet to Bedford Village."

It is also worthy of notice that from a New Bedford ship, the Dartmouth, owned by Francis Rotch, the tea was thrown into Boston harbor, and that a ship called the Bedford, of Nantucket, should have arrived in the Downs on the 23d of February, 1783, the very day of the signing of the preliminary treaty of peace. She went immediately up to London with her cargo of 587 barrels of oil, and there displayed for the first time in British waters, the stars and stripes.

The close of the war left New Bedford in a thoroughly crippled condition. The whole prospect was sufficiently disheartening. Great numbers of vessels, with other valuable property, had been destroyed. Yet in January, 1804, the total number of registered vessels was 59, and of enrolled vessels there were 5,525 tons, making an aggregate of 19,146 tons. Besides the whaling, the port engaged in freighting, there being 30 ships and brigs, averaging 200 tons burden, making voyages to Europe, South America, and the West Indies. But other difficulties succeeded. The embargo proved ruinous, as the Berlin and Milan decrees had been disastrous, as well as the Orders in Council. The fortunes of New Bedford languished until the war of 1812 was concluded. That war had destroyed the Pacific fishery. But after the peace the prosperity of New Bedford was very great, and continued until 1857. In 1845 New Bedford was the fourth tonnage district in the United States, the others being New York, Boston and New Orleans. The registered tonnage of New Bedford at that time was nearly double that of Philadelphia. The whale fishery of the city reached its highest point in capital, vessels and tonnage in 1857. Its fleet of 329 ships, and outfits, were worth more than \$12,000,000, and required 10,000 seamen. When the civil war broke out a great portion of this wealth was afloat upon various seas. Twenty-five

New Bedford whalers, with 2,742 barrels of sperm, and 4,150 barrels of whale oil, were burned by the Confederate cruisers. The value of the vessels destroyed is given at \$1,150,000; of the oil, at \$500,000; making a total of \$1,650,000. Another terrible disaster followed in September, 1871, when in one day twenty-two New Bedford ships, crushed or frozen in, were abandoned in the Arctic Ocean. Twelve hundred men were thus shipwrecked, but all of them were ultimately rescued. With the oil and bone which they had on board, they were valued at \$1,090,000. From this blow the whale fishery has never finally recovered.

The year 1880, which found other branches of business throughout this country becoming more and more remunerative, brought no resuscitation of the old enterprise. Vessels were constantly retired, and at one time twenty-eight were lying at the wharves unemployed. This reduction of the fleet promises to go on. The sperm-whale fishery has been nearly abandoned, the market for the oil not being sufficiently high. Right whales are much more numerous than sperm, and whale-bone is usually in demand at high prices. The present fleet numbers 177 vessels, at sea and in port, against 178 last year, 186 in 1879, and 187 in 1878. Sperm-whaling is now carried on in the North Atlantic, on River Platte, and Tristan, the coast of Africa, of Chili, of New Zealand, and about the Gallapagos Islands. Right whales continue abundant in the Arctic Ocean. In 1880 the fleet averaged 1,400 barrels of oil, and 22,000 pounds of bone, the most successful return for many years.

The following table shows the imports of sperm oil, of whale oil, and of bone for a period of thirty years, and is valuable as exhibiting the fluctuations of the business :—

IMPORTS FROM 1851 TO 1881.

	Barrels Sperm.	Barrels Whale.	Pounds Bone.
Imports of 1880, . .	37,614	34,776	464,028
" 1879, . .	41,308	23,334	286,280
" 1878, . .	43,508	33,778	207,259
" 1877, . .	41,119	27,191	160,220
" 1876, . .	39,811	33,010	150,628
" 1875, . .	42,617	34,594	372,303
" 1874, . .	32,203	37,782	345,560
" 1873, . .	42,053	40,014	206,396
" 1872, . .	45,201	31,075	193,793
" 1871, . .	41,534	75,152	600,655
" 1870, . .	55,183	72,691	708,365
" 1869, . .	47,936	85,011	603,606
" 1868, . .	47,174	65,575	900,850
" 1867, . .	43,433	89,289	1,001,397
" 1866, . .	36,663	74,302	920,375
" 1865, . .	33,242	76,238	619,350
" 1864, . .	64,372	71,863	760,450
" 1863, . .	65,055	62,974	488,750
" 1862, . .	55,641	100,478	763,500
" 1861, . .	68,932	133,717	1,038,450
" 1860, . .	73,708	140,095	1,337,650
" 1859, . .	91,408	190,411	1,923,850
" 1858, . .	81,941	182,223	1,540,600
" 1857, . .	78,440	230,941	2,058,900
" 1856, . .	80,941	197,890	2,592,790
" 1855, . .	72,649	184,015	2,707,500
" 1854, . .	76,696	319,837	3,445,200
" 1853, . .	103,077	260,114	5,652,300
" 1852, . .	78,872	84,211	1,259,900
" 1851, . .	99,591	328,483	3,966,500

In the District of New Bedford, which comprises New Bedford, Dartmouth, Westport, and Marion, the following were the vessels employed January 1, 1881 :—

	Ships & Barks.	Brigs.	Schooners.	Tons.
New Bedford, . . .	103	5	15	31,376
Dartmouth, . . .	1	—	—	231
Westport, . . .	2	—	—	498
Marion, . . .	—	—	2	176
Dist. of N. Bedford,	106	5	17	32,281

The average price of sperm oil, for 1880, was 99 cents per gallon; of whale oil, 51 cents; of bone, \$2 per pound.

Since the decline of the whale fishery the large money capital of New Bedford, which at one time was considered the wealthiest municipality in the world in proportion to its population, or at least in the United States, has been invested to a large extent in local manufactures. One of the chief enterprises is the Wamsutta Cotton Mills, well known for the excellence of their manufacture. These were established in 1848, with a capital of \$160,000 and 15,000 spindles. From time to time the productive capacity of these mills has been increased, until they now employ a capital of \$2,500,000, with 153,000 spindles, an annual product of 20,000,000 yards of cloth, and a disbursement of \$650,000 for labor. "The honor and credit attaching to it," says Hon. William Crapo in his "Centennial Address," delivered in 1876, "are largely due to our venerable fellow-citizen, Hon. Joseph Grinnell, who, through its whole existence has been its president and its guiding spirit. It is his prudent management and business sagacity, and also that of Thomas Bennett, for many years the agent, in directing the manufacture of the highest standard of cloth, and their unrelenting and undeviating requirement of perfect work and honest labels that have given to these mills a world-wide reputation." There are, or were also, the Potomaska Mills, erected in 1871, with a capital of \$500,000, with 2,000 looms and 22,500 spindles; the Gosnold Wire Mills, the Copper Works, a Cordage Manufactory, Prussian-blue Works, etc. There are four national banks, with an aggregate capital of \$3,200,000, and one Fire and one Marine Insurance Company. There are two daily and two weekly newspapers, and a weekly shipping-list. The valuation of real and personal estate is about \$22,000,000, nearly equally divided.

The municipal limits of New Bedford cover an area of about eleven miles long by two miles wide. The city proper is about two miles long and one mile wide. The principal public buildings are the city hall, the Unitarian, North Congregational and Catholic churches, the almshouse, which accommodates four hundred inmates, the custom-house, the public library, and the county jail and house of correction. At the entrance of the harbor is a fortification of considerable strength, built by the General Government. The fine drive around

Clark's Point, at the south end of the city, is four and a half miles in length. The city is well supplied with water, by means of a reservoir built at the head of Acushnet River. This has a capacity of 400,000,000 gallons. The water is brought six miles, and is pumped for distribution to a height of one hundred feet. There is a paid and very effective fire department, with steam fire-engines. A tramway passes through several of the principal streets. Great attention has been given in New Bedford to public education. It has a high school, with twenty-three grammar and primary schools, ninety-nine teachers, and between 3,000 and 4,000 pupils. Something should, perhaps, be more particularly said of the public schools of New Bedford, partly because that city was one of the first in the State to recognize the importance and duty of public education, and partly because the New Bedford schools have won a high reputation throughout the country. The beginning, though not altogether propitious, was at least a beginning. It is true that from the incorporation of the town in 1787 to the year 1821, the public schools were principally for the indigent—"a branch," says one historian, "of the department for the support of the poor." From 1798 to 1829 there was only one free school, and the sum voted for the support of this was very small. Still, it recognized in some measure, the fundamental idea of free education. Efforts were made from time to time to compel the citizens to obey the existing laws of the State, and to depauperize the schools. The first appropriation was only \$1,200. This was in 1821, and, in 1831, it had risen to \$5,000. From this time forward the advance in the system of public education in New Bedford was steady and rapid. At the Centennial Exhibition in 1876, the school exhibit of the city was highly creditable, and attracted much attention. The whole system has been thoroughly methodized, and has been sustained with unexampled liberality. The citizens are justly proud of their public library, said to be the first absolutely free public library established in the United States. The building which contains this was erected in 1857, at a cost of \$40,000. The library itself was opened for the delivery of books, March 3, 1853. This was free to all the inhabitants of the city. The basis of this library was the old social library, established by subscribers at an early period in the history of the city, and which contained at the time of the transfer 5,000 volumes. The number of volumes now in the library is about 40,000; the number of pamphlets, about 6,000. In addition to the appropriations annually made by the city, it has been recipient of many private donations. It has several funds. The George Howland (Junior) Fund, was the amount (\$1,600) of the donor's salary as mayor of the city for two years. Its income is devoted to the purchase of works of an expensive character. The Charles W. Morgan Fund is used for the same purpose. Under the will of Sylvia

Ann Howland, the city of New Bedford was paid the sum of \$100,000, with \$10,000 accrued interest consequent upon delay in establishing the will. The testatrix directed that this sum should "be invested judiciously, under the direction of the city council, and the income thereof expended and used for the promotion and support within the city of liberal education and the enlargement from time to time of the free public library." Of this bequest, \$50,000 were set apart for the library, and constituted the Sylvia Ann Howland Free Public Library Fund. It has become the chief dependence of the trustees for the enlargement of the library, as the appropriation by the city is absorbed by salaries and other expenses of the institution. A plain white tablet in the principal room of the library commemorates the liberality of Miss Howland, who also gave another sum of \$100,000 "to aid in supplying the city with pure water." The annual income of the library is \$3,156. Few libraries of the size in the country contain more rare and valuable books than that of New Bedford, and among these is a perfect copy of Audubon's "Birds of America," the donation of the late James Arnold. Up to a certain period the increase of the library was a little more than 1,200 volumes annually. Great care is taken in the collection of pamphlets, local newspapers and public documents of historical interest. As the library is a strictly popular one, all the books, with a few trifling exceptions, are in the English language. In natural history, the collection is said to be distinctively rich. All the public documents are in a single apartment, which contains, among other works, all the issues of the Patent Office and the publications of the Smithsonian Institute. The librarian, from the establishment of the Free Public Library, has been Mr. Robert C. Ingraham, a gentleman of well-known bibliographical acquirements. The books are absolutely free to all the inhabitants under certain slight restrictions. More than the whole number of volumes contained in it are annually borrowed from the library. It is open every day, Sundays and legal holidays excepted, from 9 A. M. to 9 o'clock P. M.

New Bedford is a half shire town of Bristol County, and is the residence of many of the most prominent members of the Bristol bar. This, with the ability of its clergymen and physicians, and the early tastes established by the Friends, has given a literary character to its society. The Unitarian (First Congregational) society particularly has had a succession of very able pastors, including Samuel West, D. D., Orville Dewey, Ephraim Peabody, John H. Morrison, John Weiss, and William J. Potter, the present minister. Dr. John Overton Choules was at one time pastor of the Baptist Church, and Rev. Azariah Eldredge of the Second Congregational Church. There are twenty-seven places of religious worship in the city, a Catholic hospital, and an orphan asylum. The principal denominations are the Congregational, Baptist, Roman

Catholic, Methodist, Freewill (or Christian) Baptist, Unitarian, Episcopalian, Mormon, Millerite, and that of the Society of Friends. The city has for many years maintained a lyceum, before which, every winter, literary and scientific lectures are given, with occasional concerts and other entertainments. In another building, theatrical and operatic performances occasionally take place. The New Bedford Port Society, with a ladies' branch, for the improvement of seamen, maintains a Bethel and a Seaman's Home. A Young Men's Christian Association cares for the moral well-being of the rising generation, and there is a branch of the Grand Army of the Republic, with lodges of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders, and of the Sons of Temperance.

The streets of the city are admirably paved, kept in excellent order, and well lighted. The New Bedford Gas Light Company has been established for many years. The City Guards, a volunteer military organization, is in a prosperous condition. The Bristol County Agricultural Society (South) occasionally holds its annual fairs in the city, and there is a poultry association which gives competitive exhibitions. There are several excellent public houses for the accommodation of travellers.

Few cities in the United States can boast of finer private residences than New Bedford. Many of them, of costly construction, are surrounded by ample and well cultivated grounds, and the principal streets being lined with trees, render the place one of the most beautiful in New England.

New Bedford is connected by railway with Boston and with the principal New England points, and has excellent facilities of communication with all parts of the country by land and water. Originally a railroad connected New Bedford with Taunton, there joining the Taunton Branch Railroad, which was also connected with the Boston & Providence Railroad. The present New Bedford Railroad connects with various roads running to Framingham, Mass., and extends to the water-front of the city. The intention was that large amounts of coal should be brought to New Bedford for distribution throughout eastern New England, and return freight taken to points south. A branch road from Fairhaven connects with the Old Colony and Cape Cod Branch railroads, and there is communication thus secured with Holmes' Hole, Wood's Hole, and by boat with the island of Nantucket.

The part taken by New Bedford during the war of the Rebellion is worthy of notice. Possibly no Northern city suffered more severely the effects of the unnatural contest for liberty. Its principal business was for a time literally ruined, and an immense amount of property afloat was destroyed; yet no city was more forward and generous in its contributions of men and money to the cause of the Union. To the army and navy New Bedford furnished 3,200 men, being 1,110 more than its quota under all the calls made by the Government. There was appropriated and expended on account

of the war, by the municipal authorities, \$177,000, in addition to \$125,495 expended by the city for State aid to the families of volunteers, the latter sum being afterwards refunded by the Commonwealth. The women of New Bedford gave upwards of \$20,000 in money and \$10,000 in cloth, flannel and hospital stores. In addition, "The Society for the Comfort and Relief of our Soldiers in Hospitals" sent large supplies to the sick and wounded. One hundred and twenty New Bedford men were officers in the military service. A monument to the soldiers and sailors of New Bedford who fell during the war has been erected. It is of the finest Concord granite, and is surrounded by a fence of bronze. The whole cost of the monument was about \$13,000. This structure commemorates the death of about three hundred men, who fell in the military or naval service of the country.

Among the seminaries of education in New Bedford worthy of special mention, is that called the Friends' Academy, an incorporated institution. This was founded by the Society of Friends in the year 1810. It has a library of about 2,000 volumes, the gift of Samuel Elam. The money for its establishment was all raised by subscription. A commodious building of brick was erected by the Trustees in 1856, for the accommodation of the female department.

During the days of slavery, New Bedford was a city of refuge for fugitive slaves, and the proportion of colored people in the population is still considerable. The Quaker influence here, as in Philadelphia, has always nurtured a strong anti-slavery feeling. Frederick Douglass, perhaps the most eminent man of the colored race in this country, came to New Bedford a runaway slave, and there, while engaged in daily manual labor for his support, received the rudiments of his education.

New Bedford has several burial places which are entitled to notice, either from their historic interest or for the beauty of their arrangement. Among these may be first mentioned the burial ground at Acushnet Village, which is the most ancient, and was for many years the only place of interment used by the inhabitants of the town. It was a churchyard, appertaining to the old meeting-house in which the celebrated Dr. West preached for a long time. The house has been demolished, and very few burials now take place in this ground. Dr. West, after his death at Tiverton, R. I., was buried here. It has been stated that no ordained minister of the gospel, up to the middle of the present century, had ever died in New Bedford. The Old Common Burying Ground, situated between Second and Water streets, is not now used. The Rural Cemetery, set apart in 1837, was the first attempt to establish a burial place in accordance with modern ideas of taste and propriety. Many of the tombs are spacious and costly, the monuments are handsome and of lasting material. The Oak Grove Cemetery was consecrated October 6, 1843. It contains some-

what more than eight acres of land, and is situated in the westerly part of the city. Every inhabitant of the city has the right of burial therein ; but private lots, for family burial, are sold at moderate rates.

It will be seen from this brief sketch that the history of New Bedford has been a peculiar, though in comparison with that of many other cities, an eventless one. Its settlement came of a desire for greater religious liberty than could be secured even in the Colony founded by the Pilgrim Fathers. The Quakers, who were prominent among its founders, "kept the even tenor of their way," refusing to participate in wars which they did nothing to provoke. Yet it is singular that the municipality has received the severest blows against its prosperity through these wars. Its harmless and peaceful founders first suffered from the ravages of a barbarous foe. Then, when they had arrived at a point of moderate prosperity, came the Revolutionary War, which absolutely paralyzed their enterprise and left them almost without ships or money. The little village felt in every fibre the malign influence of the Berlin and Milan decrees. Then came our war with Great Britain, which again arrested the fishery, and subjected the town to another invasion. Gradually, after another period of great prosperity, the fishery declined; whales became fewer and fewer, and the prices of oil smaller and smaller; the piratical craft of the Southern Confederacy entailed upon the place very considerable losses; and the adverse elements brought great disaster to the Arctic whalers. It may well be said that all these were undeserved calamities, which impaired capital and checked the increase of population. Yet at no period of its history have the merchants of New Bedford lost heart or hope, nor have the most admirable features of the city ever been changed by adversity. The public schools have been multiplied and improved. The public library has been established. Every material improvement necessary to the comfort of the population has been ungrudgingly acquiesced in. Houses of worship have increased in number; literary societies have been maintained; the highways have been kept in excellent order; gas and water have been introduced; the fire department has been as well cared for as that of New York or Boston; and the city has kept pace with the world in all which renders social life happy and profitable; and even if it were otherwise,—if all else was lost, and future recuperation rendered impos-

sible,—the citizens of New Bedford might well be proud of their traditions; might look complacently back, and without boasting declare, that for nearly a hundred years her honest and enlightened merchants were known and trusted throughout the commercial world; that during the same period the keels of her ships vexed every sea; and that a business which necessitated enterprise, energy, courage and endurance, succumbed at last only to the forces of nature, the limits of marine production, and the discoveries of science.

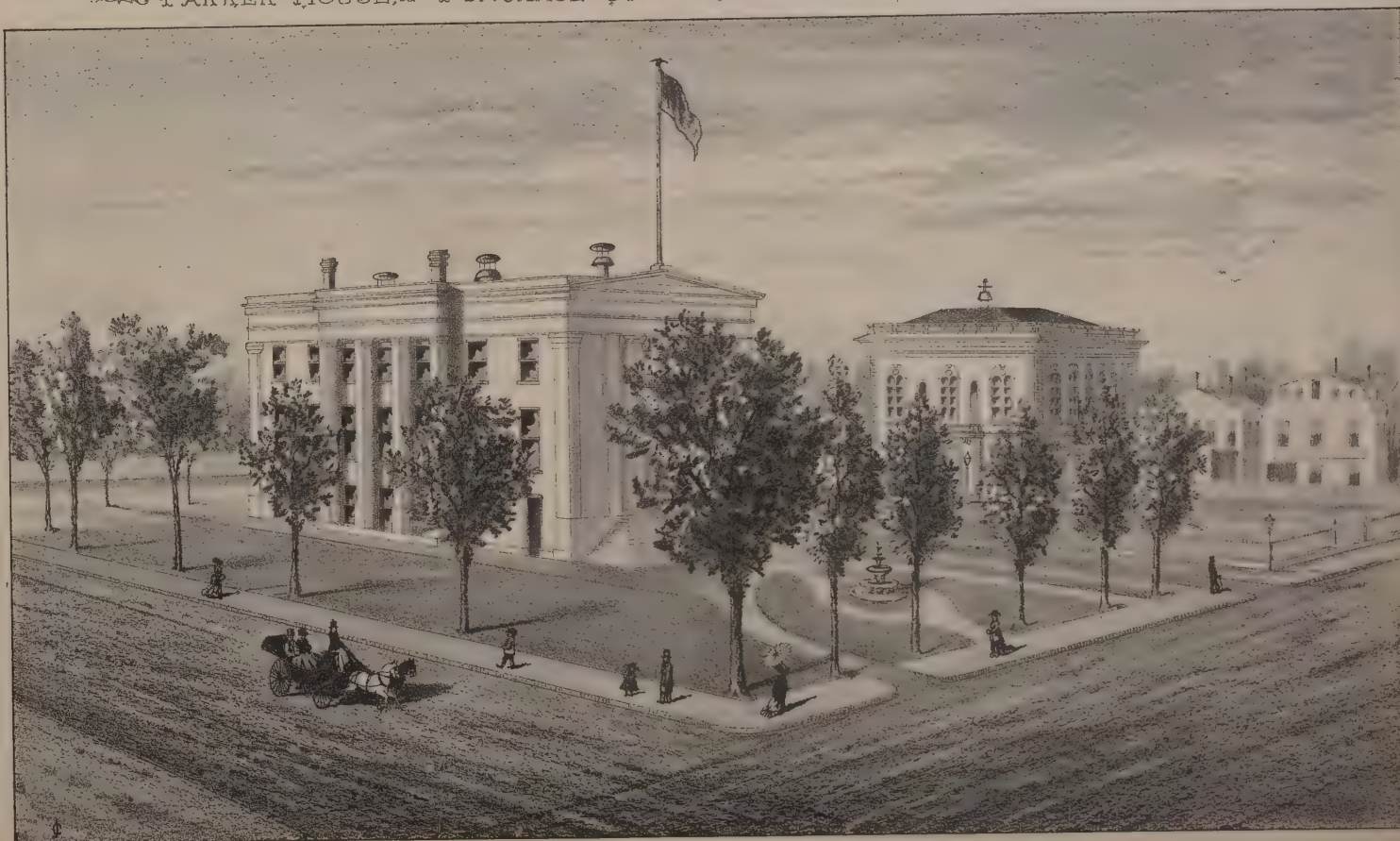
A city may fall from a higher to a lower degree of opulence; its material prosperity may be very considerably diminished; but all that is noble and true in its history remains a possession forever. New Bedford has reason to be proud of its founders, albeit their names may not have passed into the general chronicles of the republic. There is a growing love of writing local annals, and she has no reason to be ashamed of her own. If we may be allowed briefly to recapitulate, we would point out, first of all, the early religious experiences of the town, and the stand made for religious liberty, some account of which has been given. We might show the excellent and healthy influence of the Society of Friends. We might dwell upon the high and honorable character of the first New Bedford merchants—the Rotches, the Rodmans, the Russells, the Howlands. We might point to the excellent families, the natural aristocracy of the little town,—the Willises, the Popes, the Hathaways, the Grinnells, to mention no others,—an original stock which spread through some of the best of the former generations of Massachusetts. The descendants of these have won honorable position and reputation elsewhere—in the great cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, with many others. At a time when American literature was in its infancy, when the means of culture were far from ample, and when books were costly, New Bedford had always her share of men of intellectual power and refinement, availed herself of all possible opportunities of literary progress, and founded a library which in that day was considerable. When there were few academies for liberal instruction in Massachusetts, New Bedford had hers, and hers was one of the first of the Lyceums which subsequently became so common everywhere. When there were few newspapers in New England, there was a newspaper in New Bedford—*The Medley*, or *New Bedford Marine Journal*, printed and pub-

lished weekly by John Spooner, and containing such intelligence, foreign and domestic, as was attainable in those days which knew no steam-boats, no telegraph, and no railways. *The Medley* was very small, but it was large enough for the material at the command of its printer. Thus it was that honest John Spooner (according to his prospectus) undertook to instruct his fellow-citizens in "the ways of man," and "to make each one who rightly improves the advantages of a weekly gazette as knowing as his fellow." He desired "to scatter the rays of knowledge, of morality, and of refinement among the people": the modern newspaper can do no more and no better. In 1799, Abraham Shearman set up another weekly newspaper called *The Columbian Courier*, which lasted five years. In 1807 began the publication of *The New Bedford Mercury*, still printed, and one of the oldest newspapers in New England, its founder being Benjamin Lindsey, who came from Boston to New Bedford to start the enterprise. In 1831, *The Daily Mercury* was established, and it is still in existence. Other newspapers, from time to time, appeared and disappeared, the chief thing to be deplored being, indeed, their number, which was frequently too large for the demands or necessities of the public—a natural mistake, not discreditable to the community in which it occurred. To the newspapers of the old school, private citizens were the most frequent contributors. Professional editors were then almost unknown; the proprietors of the little sheets were practical printers; the ministers, the lawyers, the doctors, the school-masters furnished the original matter, often quaint and simple, but not without interest to an uncritical public. And so the quiet days of the little town went on, peaceful save when disturbed by foreign invasion; prosperous save when commercial crisis swept away the savings of years, or some religious controversy shook the churches. Year by year there was an increase in wealth and population, until New Bedford counted her numbers by thousands as she had formerly counted them by hundreds; and in all the Bay State there was not a happier, better governed and more prosperous town. Much is changed now; the old enterprise which was peculiar to the spot has shrunk to comparatively insignificant proportions; but there is still wealth and energy and enterprise enough for a new prosperity, and quite sufficient to sustain a continuous natural growth.

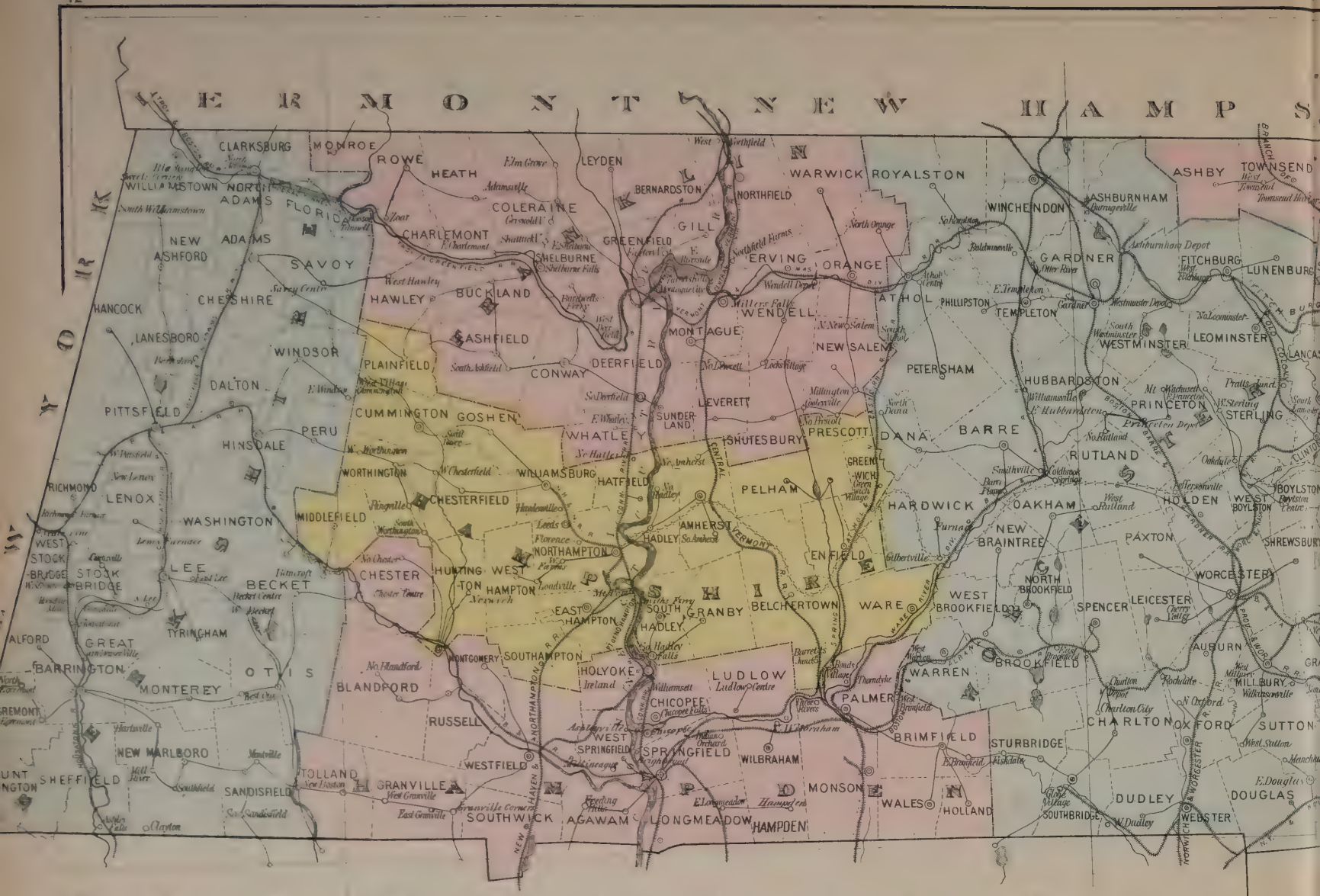




THE PARKER HOUSE, PURCHASE ST. HILBER M. BROWNELL PROPRIETOR



CITY HALL AND PUBLIC LIBRARY



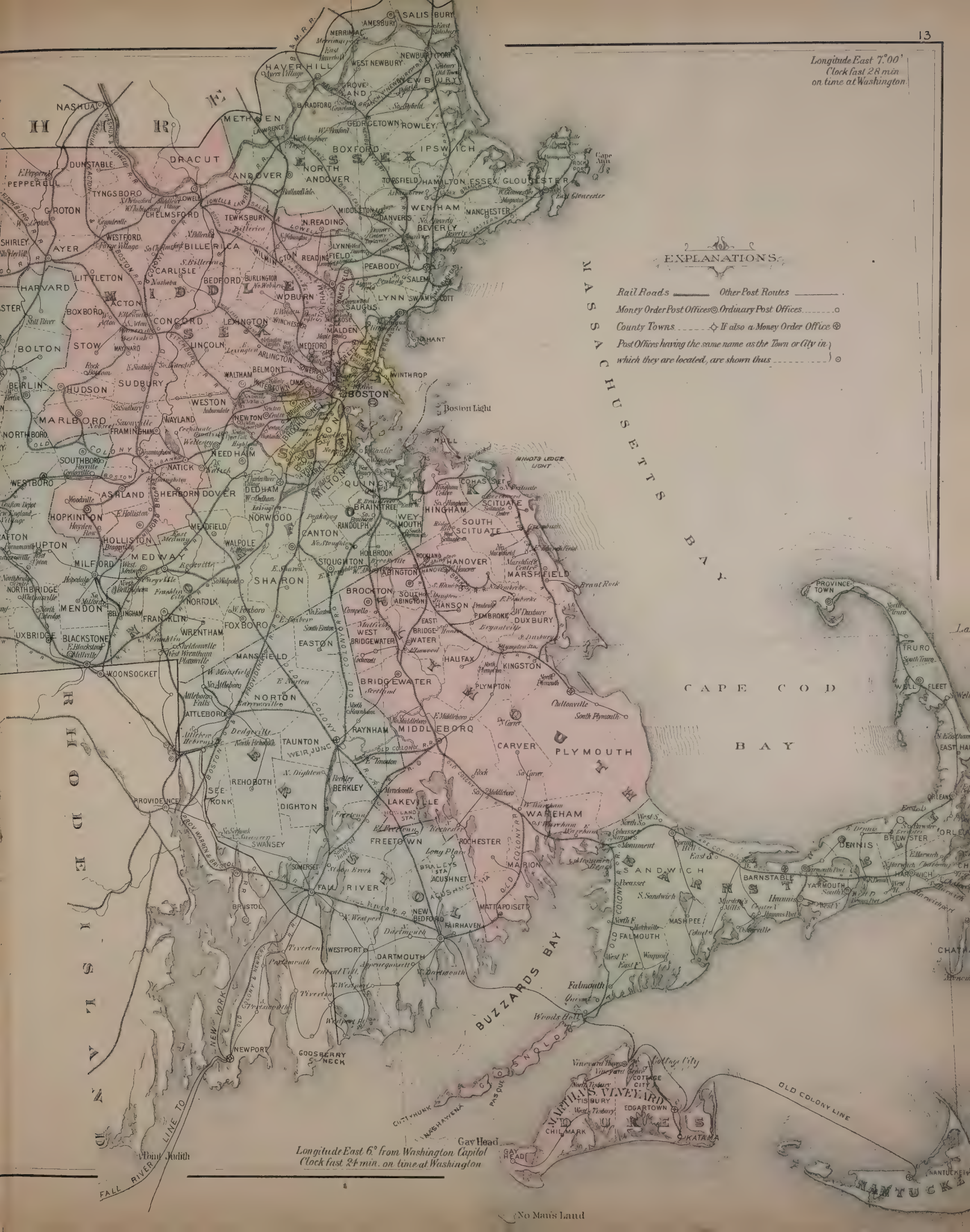
WALKER'S
Railroad, County, Town & Post Office
MAP OF MASSACHUSETTS.
 PUBLISHED BY
GEO. H. WALKER & CO.
 81 MILK ST.
 BOSTON, MASS.

Longitude East 7° 00' from Washington Capitol.
 Clock fast 16 min. on time at Washington.



Longitude East 5° 00' from Washington Capitol.
 Clock fast 20 min. on time at Washington.

Longitude East 7° 00'
Clock fast 28 min.
on time at Washington



EXPLANATIONS.

- Rail Roads ——— Other Post Routes ———
Money Order Post Offices @ Ordinary Post Offices
County Towns @ If also a Money Order Office @
Post Offices having the same name as the Town or City in
which they are located, are shown thus @

Longitude East 6° from Washington Capitol
Clock fast 24 min. on time at Washington



RESIDENCE OF J. C. HAWES, ACUSHNET MASS.



NEW MAP
OF
BRISTOL COUNTY
1881

Prepared Expressly for this Atlas.

Scale 2 Miles = 1 inch



RESIDENCE OF DAVID A SNELL MOUNT PLEASANT N.T. 1880

MAP OF THE CITY OF NEW BEDFORD MASS.

Scale 100 Rods = 1 Inch

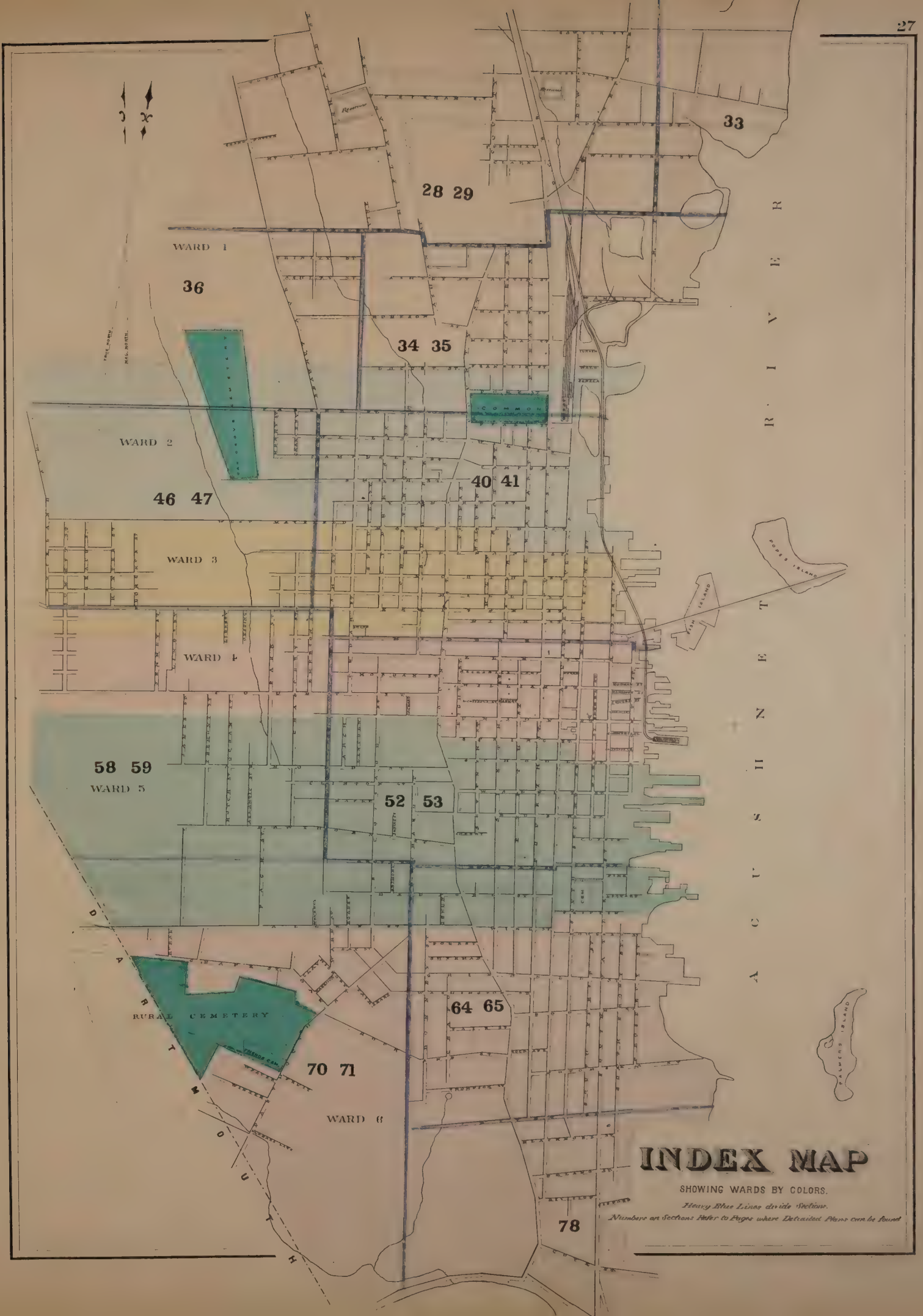




~ HOMESTEAD AND RESIDENCE OF WM. J. BETCH, COUNTY, COR OF UNION STREET ~



~ "MORELANDS" ~ HOMESTEAD AND RESIDENCE OF L. A. PLUMMER HAWTHORN ST ~



INDEX MAP

SHOWING WARDS BY COLORS.

Heavy Blue Lines divide Sections.

Numbers on Sections Refer to Pages where Detailed Plans can be found

Village of
ACUSHNET.

Scale 20 Rods = 1 Inch





RESIDENCE OF EDWARD HASKELL, UNION ST. CORNER OF COTTAGE.



RESIDENCE OF WM. H. BESSE, 106 WASHINGTON STREET.

Scale 200 Feet = 1 Inch





PLATE 7 WARDS 1 & 2 Scale 200 Feet = 1 Inch





RESIDENCE AND GROUNDS OF MRS WILLIAM GIFFORD, S.C. COUNTY S.T.



RESIDENCE AND GROUNDS OF EDWARD XILBURN, COR. SIXTH AND BUSH STS.

C O M M

WARD 3

YARD 4



PLATE 5
WARDS 23 & 4
Scale 200 Feet = 1 Inch





~RESIDENCE OF J. C. DELANO~ HAWTHORNE STREET~



~RESIDENCE OF GEO. O. CROCKER~ WILLIAM STREET~



RD 2

WARD 3

ST.



RESIDENCE OF ANDREW BULLOCK, COUNTY ST., NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

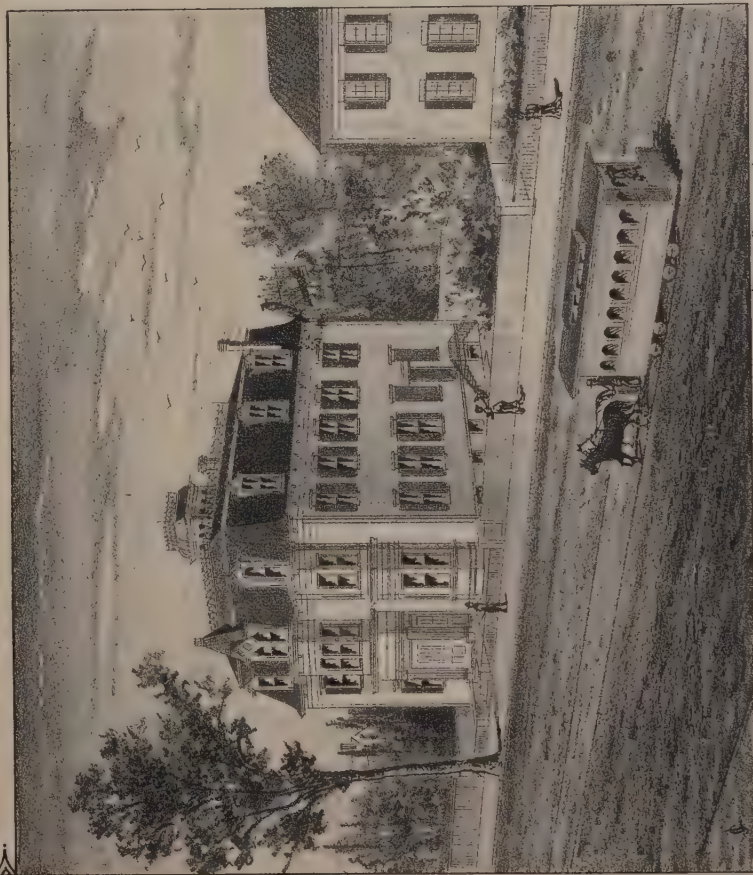


RESIDENCE OF B.N. SWIFT, ACUSINET, MASS.

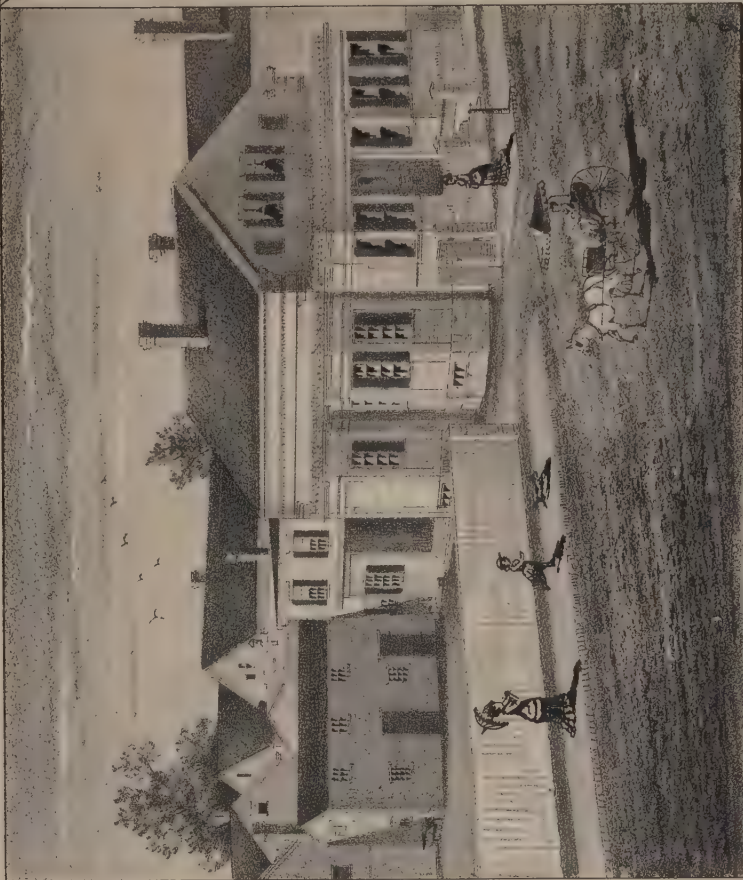
WARD 4



PLATE 7
WARDS 4 & 5
Scale 200 Feet = 1 Inch



RESIDENCE OF AMASA WHITNEY, FOURTH STREET



RESIDENCE OF CHARLES BRIGGS, ACUSHNET AVENUE.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN WING MT. PLEASANT ST.



RESIDENCE OF ROBERT T. PARKER N. B. COR WILLIS & STATE STS.

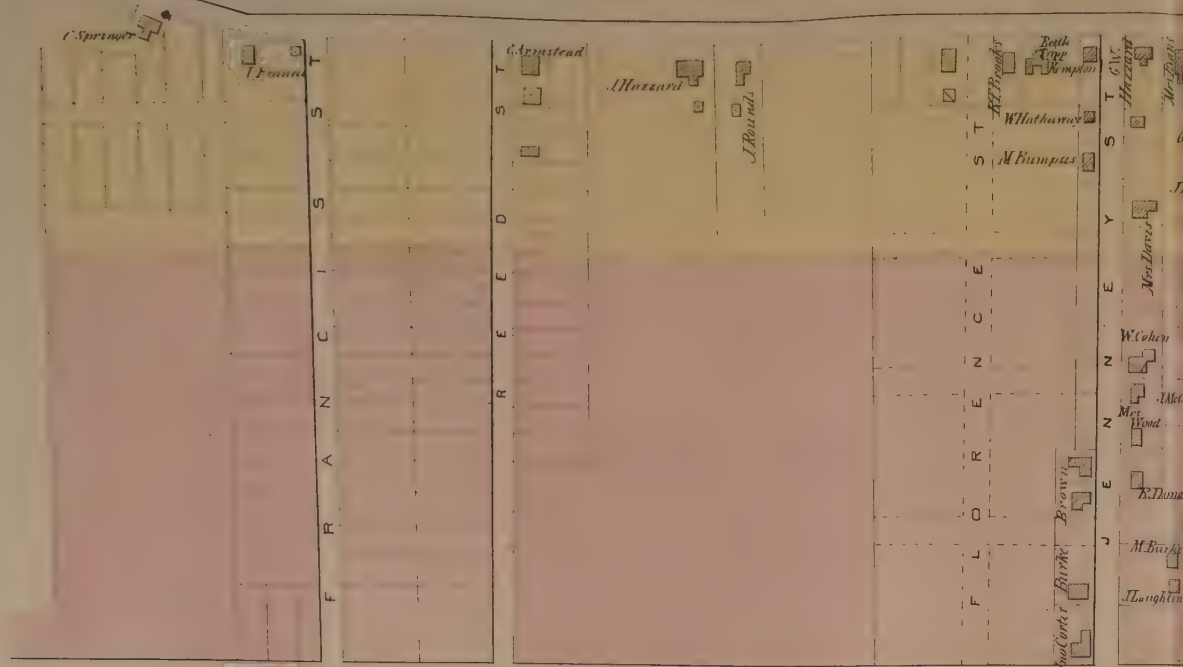
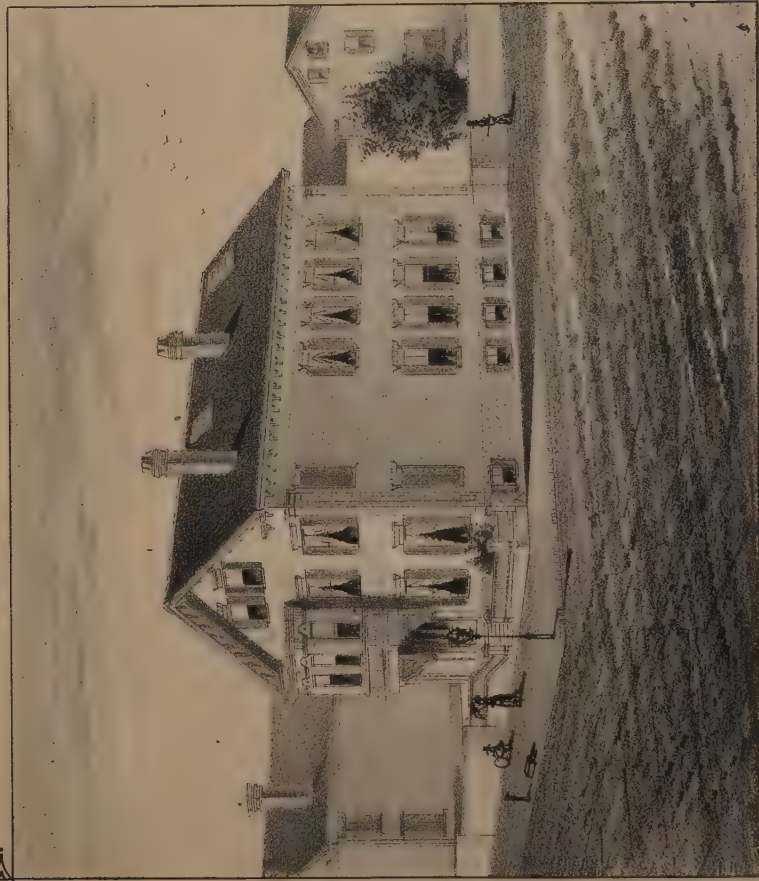


PLATE 8
WARDS 3, 4 & 5.
Scale 200 Feet = 1 Inch

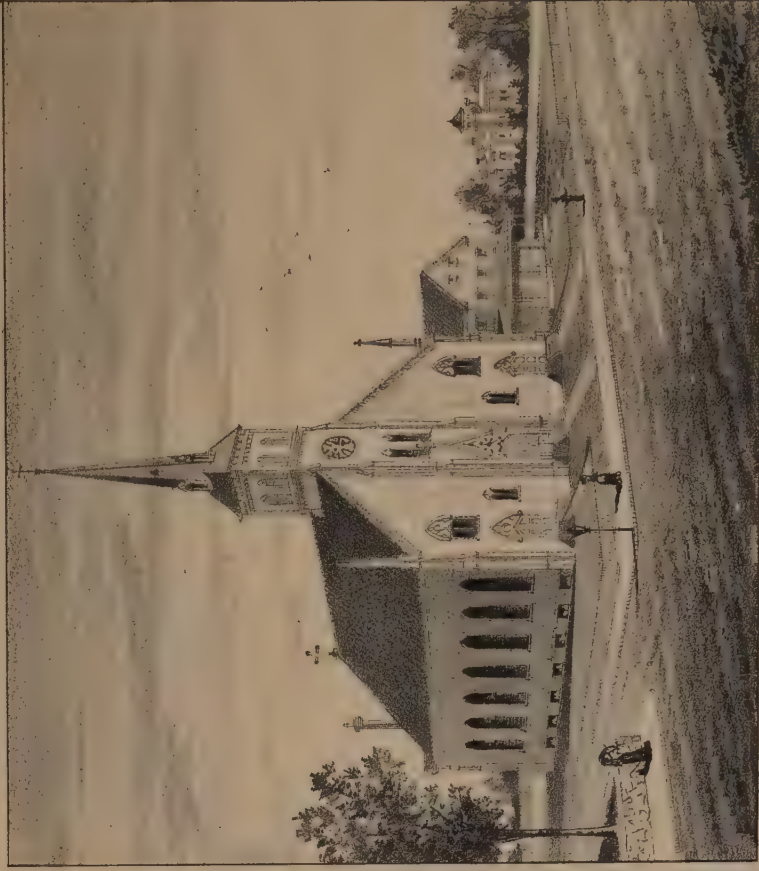


YVA

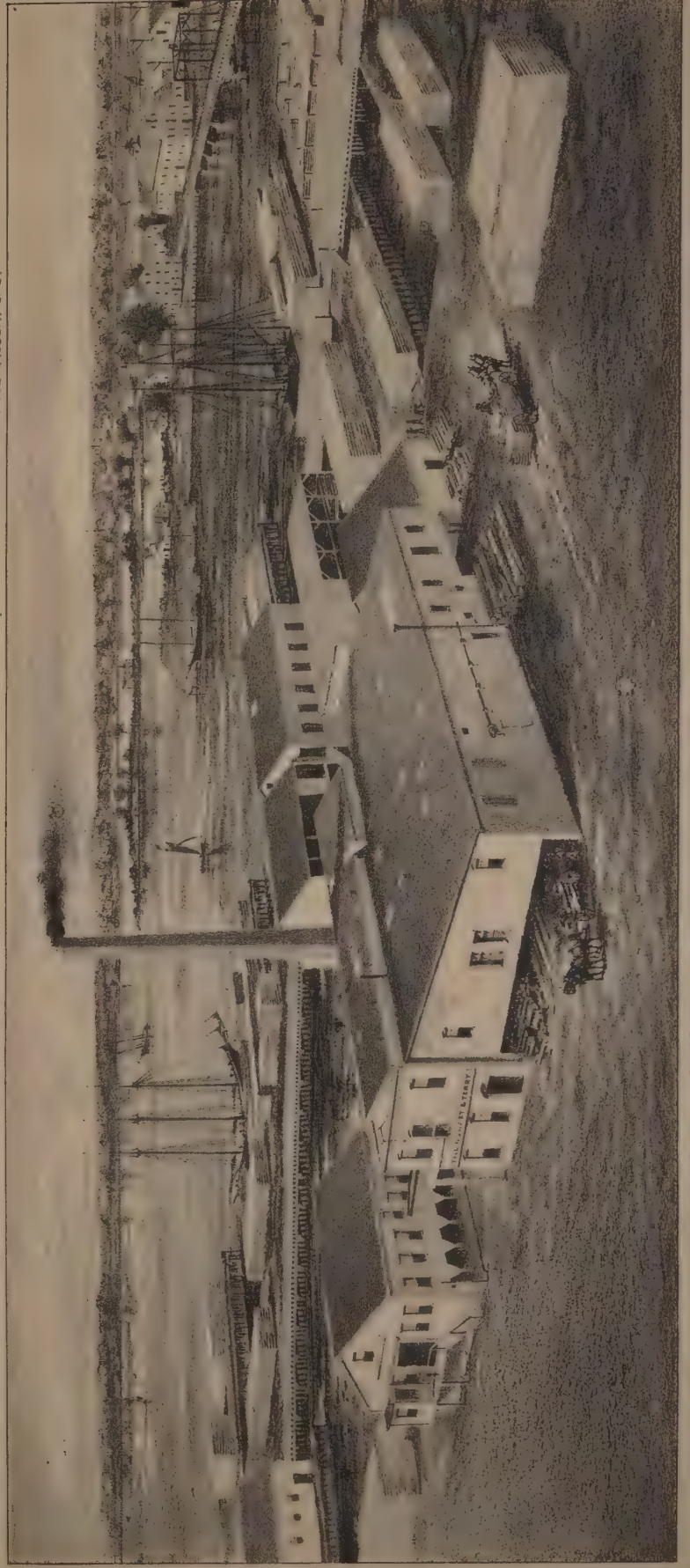
CARD 5



RESIDENCE OF SUSAN S. ROBINSON, COR. KEMPTON & HILL STS.



CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, COR. ASHLAND & ROBESON STS.
—REV. GEORGE PACER, P.P.—



LUMBER YARD & PLANING MILL OF TILLINGMAST & TERRY, NORTH WATER STREET.

WARD 5

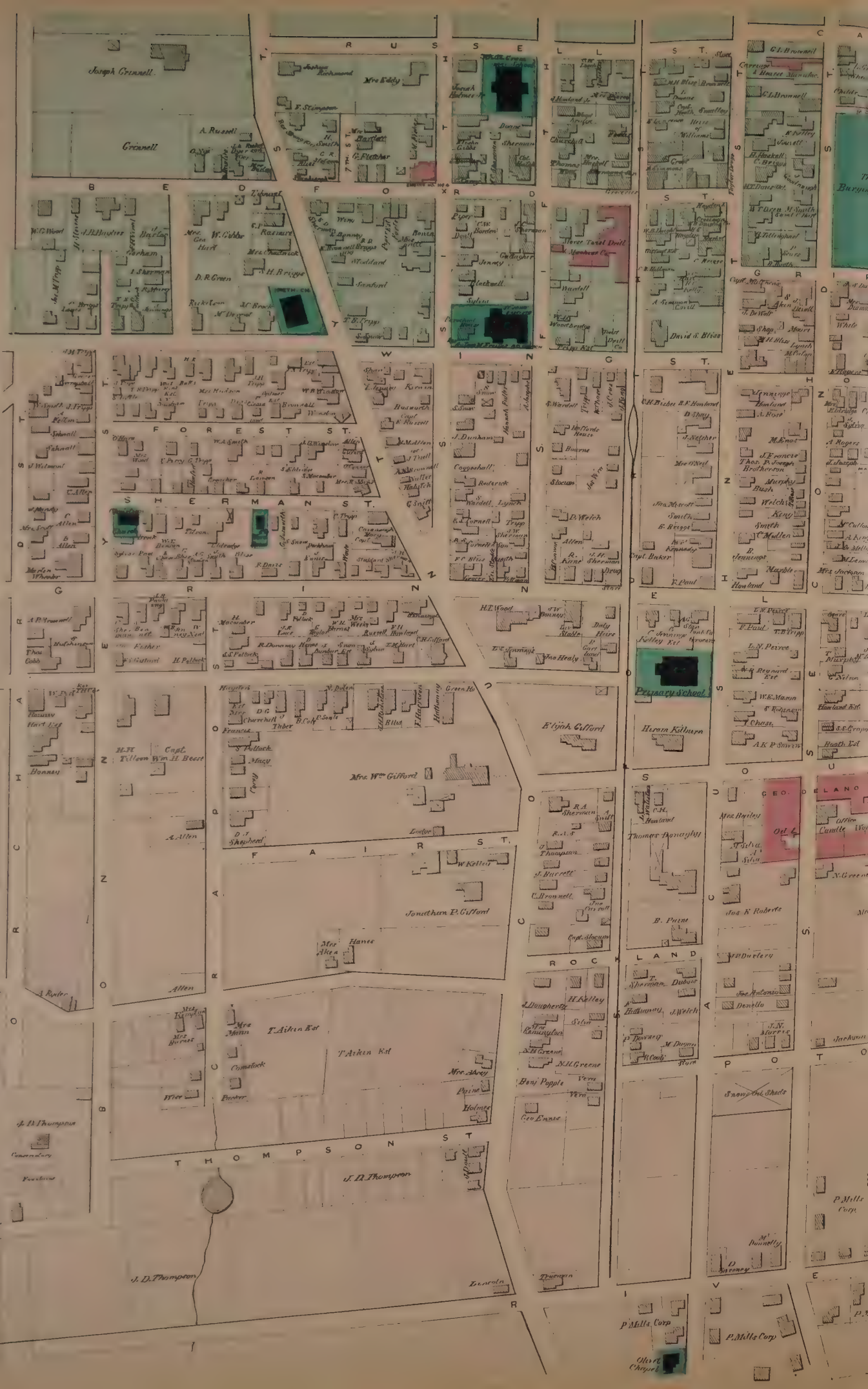
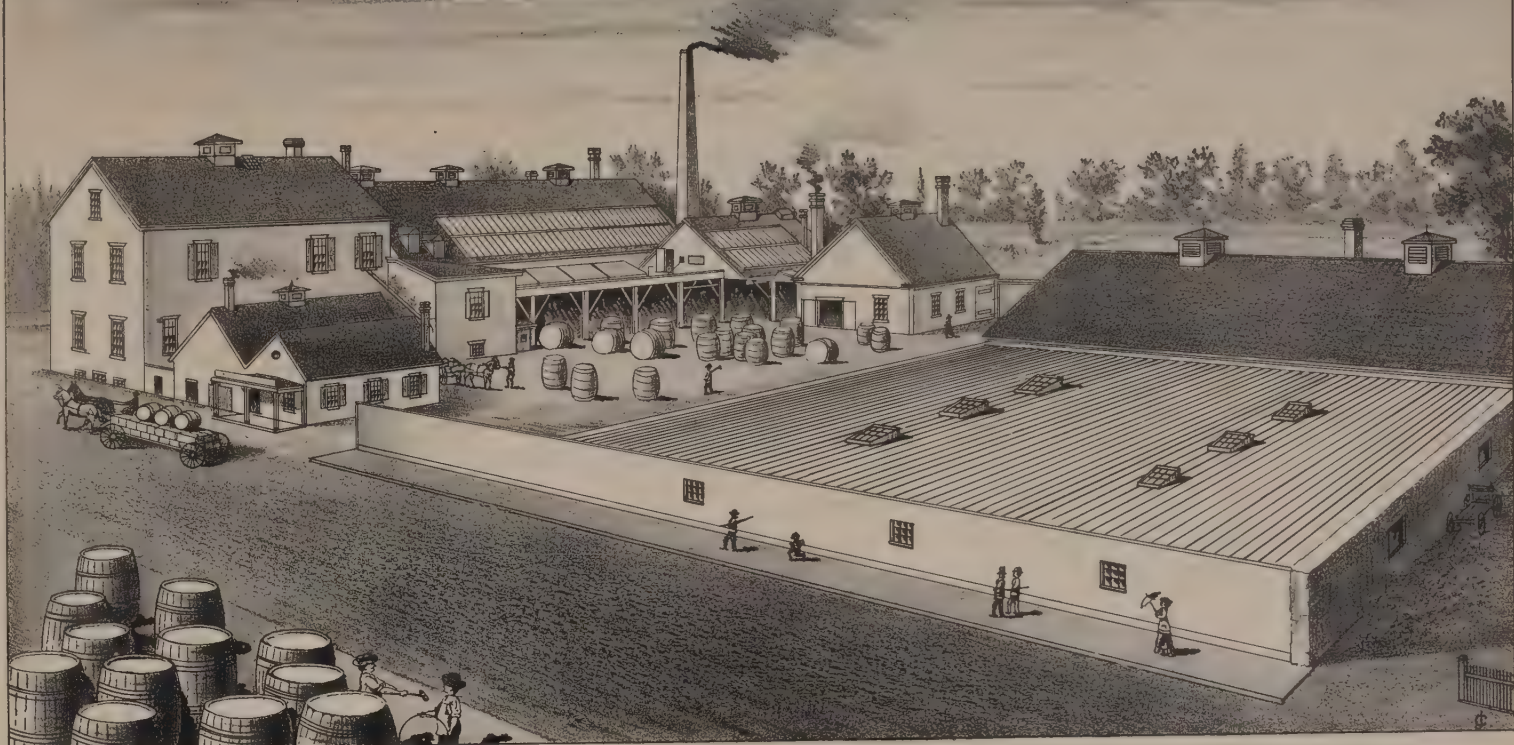




PLATE 9
WARDS 5 & 6
Scale 200 Feet = 1 Inch



OIL & CANDLE FACTORY OF GEORGE DELANO, SOUTH STREET, NEW BEDFORD MASSON



THAYER & JUDD: PARAFFINE WORKS, FRONT STREET, NEW BEDFORD MASSON

WARD 5

P A G E S T

Mr. Landon
J. Smith
T. Bennett
W. De Wolf

WAVERLY ST.

S. A S H S T

W. L. Brown
Mr. J. C. Shaw
L. Brown
G. Brown
C. Brown
W. Brown
J. Brown
T. Brown
R. Brown
A. Brown
S. Brown
M. Brown
D. Brown
N. Brown
H. Brown
K. Brown
L. Brown
J. Brown
I. Brown
O. Brown
P. Brown
Q. Brown
R. Brown
S. Brown
T. Brown
U. Brown
V. Brown
W. Brown
X. Brown
Y. Brown
Z. Brown

W. L. Brown
Mr. J. C. Shaw
L. Brown
G. Brown
C. Brown
W. Brown
J. Brown
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R. Brown
A. Brown
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M. Brown
D. Brown
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H. Brown
K. Brown
L. Brown
J. Brown
I. Brown
O. Brown
P. Brown
Q. Brown
R. Brown
S. Brown
T. Brown
U. Brown
V. Brown
W. Brown
X. Brown
Y. Brown
Z. Brown

RURAL
CEMETERY

WARD 6

RURAL CEMETERY



OTIS A. Sisson, PROPRIETOR



DIETOR. NEW BEDFORD, MASS.



Dartmouth.
New Bedford.

